

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Review Item:

Digital Learning 2020: A Policy Report for Kentucky's Digital Future (Embargoed Digital Learning 2020 report under separate cover)

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 158.645, 158.6451, 704 KAR 3:305

History/Background:

Existing Policy. *Breaking New Ground: The Final Report of the Governor's Task Force on Transforming Education in Kentucky*, outlines an education system with equity of access and personalized uses of technology in all classrooms and in professional learning communities; performance-based anytime, anywhere learning; and the use of technology to meet special needs. The report envisions new high school models featuring advanced coursework, expanded access to world languages, and assessment of 21st century skills.

The *Digital Learning 2020* report is still draft and embargoed at this point. It specifically addresses one recommendation of the Governor's Task Force in order to make better use of technology to improve teaching and learning and "Implement policies to enhance and expand virtual and blended learning, including funding options to ensure equitable access to students across the Commonwealth." A two-month planning process involving surveys, interviews, and focus groups resulted in 11 recommendations found in the report organized in five categories.

The report provides a number of areas of policy that must be addressed including access to quality digital learning opportunities, issues related to the funding formula in Kentucky schools, how to determine quality providers and how to handle oversight. These policy decisions involve the entirety of the P20 education system, from P12 through postsecondary.

The entire Digital Learning 2020 report (Embargoed) will be sent to board members under separate cover. The presentation at the board meeting will focus on those elements from the report under the purview of the board.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

With a high level of collaboration among stakeholders, Kentucky is well-positioned for the race toward a digital future. The recommendations presented in the referenced report

will assist more Kentucky graduates to leave high school ready for college and careers. The integration of these recommendations across the entire P20 education landscape is the key to winning that race.

Contact Person:

David Cook, Director
Division of Innovation and Partner Engagement
502-564-4201
David.Cook@education.ky.gov

Commissioner of Education

Date:

December 2011